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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/659,967	09/11/2003	Duane G. Krzysik	KCC 4982.1 (K-C 19,834)	5034
321	7590	11/16/2005	EXAMINER	
SENNIGER POWERS ONE METROPOLITAN SQUARE 16TH FLOOR ST LOUIS, MO 63102			VANIK, DAVID L	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1615	

DATE MAILED: 11/16/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
	10/659,967		KRZYSIK ET AL.	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	David L. Vanik		1615	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 September 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Receipt is acknowledged of applicant's Amended Claims filed on 9/7/2005.

As a result of an amendment, the 35 USC §102 rejections over US 6,149,934 and US 6,287,581 are hereby **withdrawn**. In addition, as a result of an amendment, the 35 USC §103 rejections over US 6,287,581 in view of 5,520,917 are hereby **withdrawn**.

NEW REJECTIONS:

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US patent US 6,340,467 ('467).

'467 disclose a composition comprising from about 5 – 75% weight percent of an emollient, about 0.1 to 50% by weight percent of a wax, and up to 50% weight percent of a rheology enhancer (Claims 1 and 13; abstract; column 2, lines 46-54; column 2,

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lines 37-41; and column 4, lines 34-42). According to '467, mineral oil is a suitable emollient (column 2, lines 24-36), carnauba wax is a suitable structurant (column 4, lines 34-43), and a combination of mineral oil and styrene copolymers is a well-suited viscosity enhancer (column 3, lines 3-62 and column 4, lines 63-67).

It is the examiner's position that, inherently, the composition advanced by '467 has a viscosity between 50 to about 50,000 centipose. Since the essential elements of the '467 composition are identical to the instant compositions (from about 5 – 75% weight percent of an emollient, about 0.1 to 50% by weight percent of a wax, and up to 50% weight percent of a rheology enhancer), the composition would inherently have the same physiochemical properties as the compositions set forth in the instant application. As such, it is the examiner's position that the composition advanced by '467 anticipates the compositions enumerated in the instant claim set.

The claims are therefore anticipated by 6,340,467 ('467).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

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1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

Claims 1-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 6,149,934 ('934) in view of US 6,340,467 ('467).

'934 teach a composition comprising from about 5 – 95 weight percent of an emollient, about 5 – 95 weight percent of a wax, and about 0.1 – 25 weight percent of a viscosity enhancer (abstract and column 2, lines 10-37). According to '934, mineral oil is a suitable emollient (column 9, line 47) and beeswax is a suitable structurant (column 10, line 22). Like the instant claims 7-9, the viscosity of the composition advanced by '934 is between about 50 – 50,000 centipose (column 12, lines 42-53). The composition set forth by '934 can also comprise a variety of other chemical agents, such as antifoaming agents and fragrances (column 11, lines 24-60).

The composition advanced by '934 can also comprise a surfactant, such as sorbitan monooleate, and a hydrophilic skin care active, such as glycerin (column 11, line 16; column 11, lines 59-60; and column 9, lines 21-22). In another embodiment, the composition can include 20 – 75 weight percent of a particulate material, such as calcium carbonate (column 7, lines 3-17).

'934 does not specifically teach a rheology enhancer selected from the list set forth in the instant Claims 1 and 23. However, '467 teaches the advantages of using

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rheology enhancers comprising mineral oil and styrene copolymers in a topical ointment composition (abstract and Claims 1, 13). According to '467, topical ointment compositions comprising mineral oil and styrene copolymers have a lower tendency to melt and therefore a greater tendency to remain where applied (column 4, lines 2-13). Because a composition comprising an emollient, structurant, and a rheology enhancer comprising mineral oil and styrene copolymers has a lower tendency to melt and therefore a greater tendency to remain where applied (i.e., not to run or drip), one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to add a rheology enhancer comprising mineral oil and styrene copolymers to the ointment composition proposed by '934. Based on the teachings of '467, there is a reasonable expectation that a topical ointment comprising an emollient, structurant, and a rheology enhancer comprising mineral oil and styrene copolymers would have a lower tendency to melt and therefore a greater tendency to remain where applied. As such, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add a rheology enhancer comprising mineral oil and styrene copolymers to the ointment composition proposed by '934 in view of the teachings of '467.

Claims 1-6, 10-13, 19-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 6,287,581 ('581) in view of US 6,340,467 ('467).

'581 disclose a composition comprising 5 – 95 weight percent of emollients, 5 – 95 percent wax, a structurant, 1 – 25 weight percent of a viscosity enhancer,

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humectants, and 1 – 20 weight percent of a surfactant (abstract, column 3, lines 32-39, column 5, lines 18-32, and Claim 1). Specific components used in the invention advanced by '581 include: montan wax, a well known structurant (column 5, line 13); canola oil, a suitable emollient (column 4, line 47); ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymers, a viscosity enhancer (column 5, lines 16-17); sorbitan monooleate, a surfactant having an HLB in the range of 3 to 6 (column 5, lines 1-2, column 7, lines 4-15); glycerin, a hydrophilic skin care active (column 5, line 7). The composition set forth by '581 can also comprise a variety of other chemical agents, such as antifoaming agents and fragrances (column 12, lines 11-44).

'581 does not specifically teach a rheology enhancer selected from the list set forth in the instant Claims 1 and 23. However, '467 teaches the advantages of using rheology enhancers comprising mineral oil and styrene copolymers in a topical ointment composition (abstract and Claims 1, 13). According to '467, topical ointment compositions comprising mineral oil and styrene copolymers have a lower tendency to melt and therefore a greater tendency to remain where applied (column 4, lines 2-13). Because a composition comprising an emollient, structurant, and a rheology enhancer comprising mineral oil and styrene copolymers has a lower tendency to melt and therefore a greater tendency to remain where applied (i.e., not to run or drip), one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to add a rheology enhancer comprising mineral oil and styrene copolymers to the ointment composition proposed by '581. Based on the teachings of '467, there is a reasonable expectation that a topical ointment comprising an emollient, structurant, and a rheology enhancer comprising

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mineral oil and styrene copolymers would have a lower tendency to melt and therefore a greater tendency to remain where applied. As such, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add a rheology enhancer comprising mineral oil and styrene copolymers to the ointment composition proposed by '581 in view of the teachings of '467.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Correspondence

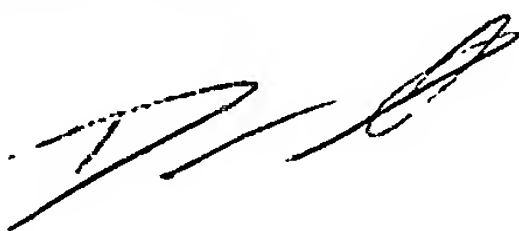
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David L. Vanik whose telephone number is (571) 272-3104. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM.

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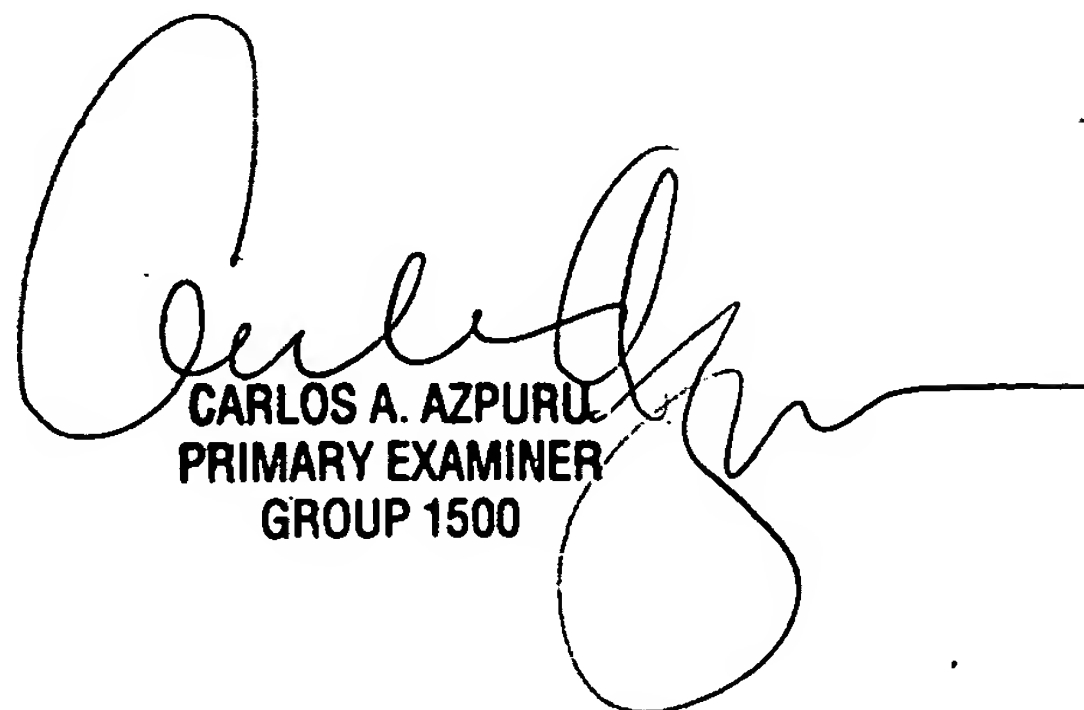
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thurman Page can be reached on (571) 272-0602. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

David Vanik
Art Unit 1615



11/10/05



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